Statement

Details of target fixed by the Government and loans provided by all banks under Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years.

Years	Target (Plan) (Nos.)	No. of cases to whom loans were disbursed by Banks	Amount Disbursed by Banks (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3	4
2003-04	18400	17729	11125.44
2004-05	21500	22542	14718.59
2005-06*	20767	21168	12402.79
TOTAL:	60667	61439	38246.82

Source: RBI, Mumbai
*Provisional

Upgradation of quality of Khadi

†1211. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pieased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to upgrade quality of Khadi keeping in view its increasing demand in the country as well as in the markets aborad;

(b) if so, the total number of persons likely to get employment on account of incentives of Khadi industry; and

(c) the steps taken by KVIC to increase production of Khadi in rural and tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries)

†Onginal notice of the question was received in Hindi

in consultation Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has formulated a scheme for enhancing productivity and competitiveness of khadi industry and artisans by overhauling repairing and renewal of spinning/ weaving and allied equipment, replacement of obsolete equipment in operation with 200 of the best performing khadi institutions registered with KVIC, setting up service centres, product and design development, capacity building of artisans as well as khadi institutions. This scheme has the principal objective of upgradation of quality of khadi products for domestic market as well as external market.

(b) The scheme is proposed to be implemented over a period of five years and after the complete implementation of the scheme, around 24,000 new employment opportunities are expected to be added to the existing 8.68 lakh persons employed in the khadi sector.

(c) To increase the production of khadi in the country, including rural and tribal areas, and make khadi products competitive in the global economy, Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) has been implementing schemes like Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate scheme (ISEC) providing subsidized rates of interest on bank loans, Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Scheme for improving designs and packaging of khadi products and Rebate Scheme for providing rebate on sales of khadi through KVIC. Assistance is also provided to khadi institutions by KVIC to participate in exhibitions at the national, sub-national levels to assist marketing of khadi products. Further, the Government has launched the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) to develop 100 clusters (25 khadi, 50 village industries and 25 coir clusters) over a period of five years beginning 2005-06. SFURTI envisages assistance for setting up of common facility centres, quality improvement, training and capacity building, development of new products, improved packaging, new design, market promotion, etc.

Import of Potassic Fertilizers

1212. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS toe pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering import of large quantities of potassic nutrients this year to meet the domestic shortfall;